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DOCKET NO.: 2343-172-27

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Re: Serial No.: 10/662,347
Applicant(s): Akshaya KUMAR, et al.
Filing Date: September 16, 2003
For: FIBER OPTIC LASER-INDUCED BREAKDOWN SPECTROSCOPY
DEVICE AND METHOD OF USE

SIR:

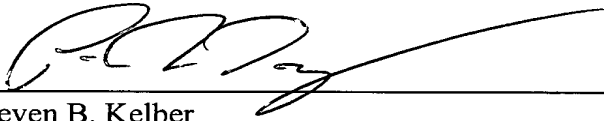
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Preliminary Amendment (including Attachment, 1 Drawing Sheet)

Our check in the amount of \$ 0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



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DOCKET NO. 2343-172-27

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Akshaya KUMAR, et al.

ART UNIT:

SERIAL NO.: 10/662,347

EXAMINER:

FILING DATE: September 16, 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, kindly make the following changes.